

Eric van der Heijden,
Vice President of
Sales EMEA at Lattice
Semiconductor PAGE 47

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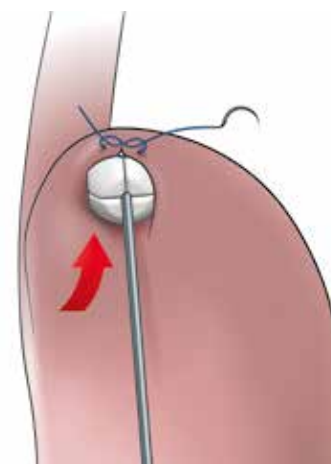
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Bringing high tech into the body

Implantica is a medtech group dedicated to bringing advanced technology into the body. Implantica's lead product, RefluxStop™, is a CE-marked implant for the prevention of gastroesophageal reflux that will potentially create a paradigm shift in anti-reflux treatment as supported by successful clinical trial results. Peter Forsell, Implantica CEO, believes their technology could revolutionise healthcare.



Implantica was founded in 2015, building on research dating back to 2003. The company has developed a broad, patent protected, product pipeline based partly on two platform technologies: an eHealth platform designed to monitor a broad range of health parameters, control treatment from inside the body and communicate to the caregiver on distance and a wireless energising platform designed to power remote controlled implants wirelessly through intact skin. "The wireless power supply ensures you don't need battery replacement, and our communication and measuring system ensures that the caregiver can monitor treatment and if necessary adjust certain steps in it," Mr. Forsell explains.

Implantica has identified some 300 potential inventions in a multitude of application areas for its implants and platform technologies, but (for now) has decided to focus on bringing 4 products to market. As the company went public last year and raised funds, Mr. Forsell is

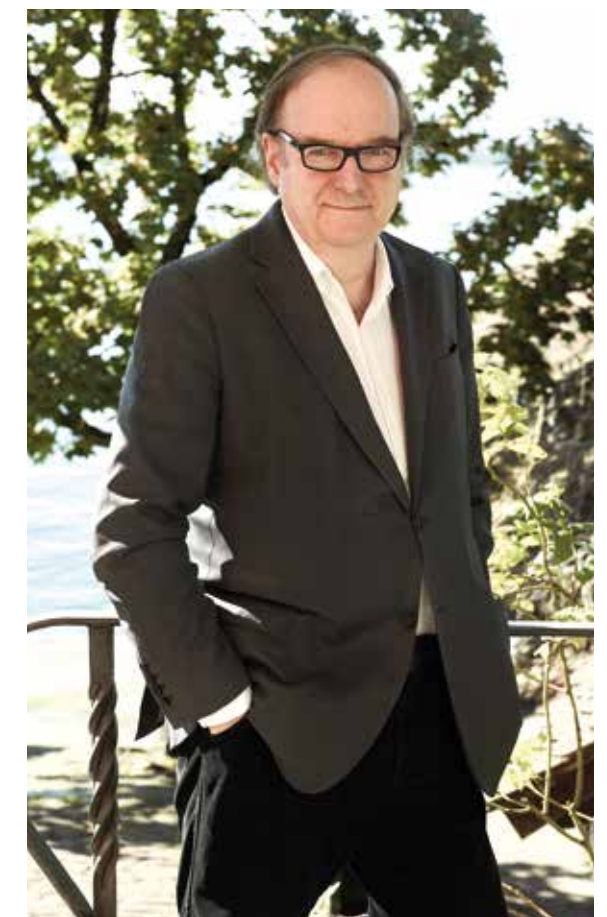
confident that they're capable of doing this, particularly as RefluxStop is already generating revenue.

RefluxStop™ is a clinically proven treatment for acid reflux that treats the cause of the disease, allowing a natural physiological function of the lower oesophageal sphincter (LES) without affecting the food passageway. Mr. Forsell points out that many people suffering from acid reflux take drugs that are called PPIs (proton pump inhibitors) but there are some potentially dangerous side effects. In the US, a 5-year study, conducted by researchers from the Veterans' Affairs (VA) Saint Louis Health Care System and Washington University in Saint Louis, showed that veterans taking PPIs were more likely to experience kidney function decline. An estimated 15 million Americans are prescribed PPIs. "The biggest problem with acid reflux is that it can cause cancer," says Mr. Forsell. "And PPI doesn't protect against cancer risk: all it does is alleviate symptoms."

RefluxStop is approved for use in the EU and several other markets, and Mr. Forsell expects that they'll be able to enter the

US market in one to three years. Meanwhile the company continues to evolve its three other product candidates. Among them, Mr. Forsell highlights AppetiteControl, an implant that imitates the body's own natural functions by stretching the upper part of the stomach in the same way as when the stomach becomes full of food. As with Implantica's other implants, the caregiver can monitor AppetiteControl and adjust parameters. "It's a fully automatic system so very cost efficient as patient doesn't have to go to hospital all the time," says Mr. Forsell.

Prior to Implantica, Mr. Forsell successfully developed the adjustable gastric band business at Obtech Medical AG, and he is confident that Implantica's devices will achieve similar success. "It will take time but we've built a great group of people and we're capable of becoming an important medtech player."



Implantica AG
Website: www.implantica.com